

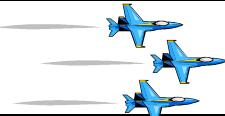


The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895
HALIFAX NS
B3K 5M5

November 2012, Volume 73 Number 9
club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

Executive

| | | |
|---|----------|---------------------------------|
| President - Fraser MacDougal, VE1WO | 865-4198 | fmac@ns.sympatico.ca |
| First V.P. - Bill Elliott, VE1MR | 865-8567 | bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca |
| 2nd V.P. - Betty Caithness, VE1BSW | 477-7081 | betty.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca |
| Secretary - Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF | | VE1JHF@Gmail.com |
| Treasurer - John Goddwin, VE1CDD | 865-5731 | VE1CDD@eastlink.ca |
| Director-at-Large: - Doug LeBlanc, VE1LDL | 465-4665 | leblanc@accesscable.net |
| Club Station Mgr. - Jim Flowers, VE1JIM | 443-8657 | ve1jim@ns.sympatico.ca |
| Past President - VACANT | | |

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government liaison – VACANT

QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca

EMO Coordinator - Dave George, VE1AJP 466-8723 dgeorge@dal.ca

EMO Trailer coordinator – David Musgrave, VE1EDA 435-4333 veleda@rac.ca

Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT 865-8567 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

Reflector Dist. - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carolwood@accesswave.ca

Membership - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carolwood@accesswave.ca

Web page – Brandon Detmers, VA1BSD brandon.detmers@dal.ca

Basic ham course - Erik Hein, VE1JEH 826-7145 bravojeh@gmail.com

2012 Flea market Chair – VACANT

Callbook Editor – Howard Dickson, VE1DHD, 823-2024 dh dickson@eastlink.ca

Field Day coordinator – VACANT

Safety Officer - Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB ve1trb@eastlink.ca

NSARA Director - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI 861-3719 ve1tri@rac.ca

Honorary Legal Counsel – Paul Radford, VE1ARH

Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Everett Price, VO1DK vo1dk@rac.ca

RAC Section Manager – VACANT

RAC Assistant Director for HRM Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2761 ve1qd@rac.ca

Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation. We would like at least 2 or 3 more.

If you want to join, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



| | | |
|---------|-------|--------|
| Nov. 18 | Erik | VE1JEH |
| Nov. 25 | Doug | VE1LDL |
| Dec. 2 | Bruce | VE1MLW |
| Dec. 9 | Emil | VE1ESP |
| Dec. 16 | Peter | VE1PJW |

| | | |
|---------|-------|--------|
| Dec. 23 | Win | VE1WIN |
| Dec. 30 | Erik | VE1JEH |
| Jan. 6 | Doug | VE1LDL |
| Jan. 13 | Bruce | VE1MLW |
| Jan. 20 | Emil | VE1ESP |

Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them?

Deadline for submissions to the January Reflector is Saturday, January 5, 2013

The November 21, 2012 **General Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will be held in the Senior's Room on the 1st floor of the St. Andrew's Centre, 3380 Barnstead Lane, Halifax. Social Hour begins at 6:30 p.m. As usual, refreshments will be available.

The November General Meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. **followed by the Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers.**

Door prize for this meeting will be a \$20 Sobey's Gift Card.

Notice of Motion

There was a motion passed at the last General meeting to increase membership dues by \$5 in response to an appeal from the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association (NSARA) for help with insurance costs related to being in the Provincial Radio sites. As a requirement of registration under the Societies act we should pass this motion again as a Special Resolution. Read more on page 2

The new dues structure is on page 2

GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:

TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz + TX=82.5

VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +

VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -

access tone 151.4 Hz

VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5

PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz
LAN NODE

Events for Your Calendar

Basic Radio Licensing Course for If you know of anyone who is interested in getting an amateur radio license, please have them get in touch with Erik, VE1JEH

December 19

Christmas party

Our annual HARC Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday, December 19, at Fan's Chinese Restaurant, 451 Windmill Road, Dartmouth, NS at 6:30 p.m. Significant others are, of course, welcome to attend. Everyone will order individually from the menu and will be responsible for their own bills and gratuities.

If you plan to attend, **please RSVP to** Betty Caithness by e-mail at betty.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca or by telephone at 477-7081.



February – Guides on the Air
 Downeast Flea Market – May
 Field Day 2013 – June
 July – Museum Ships Special Event
 July - IOTA (Islands on the Air)
 July & August – Pizza Nights
 August – MS Bike Tour
 Contact Rick Gardner, VE1RGG, to help with communications
 August – NSARA Picnic
 Northern Lights
 August – International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend
 For more information see <http://www.lighthouse.fsnet.co.uk/events/intlighthouseday.html>

Spotted in a safari park:



ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR

Notice of Motion

There was a motion passed at the last General Meeting to increase membership dues by \$5 in response to an appeal from the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association (NSARA) for help with insurance costs related to being in the Provincial Radio sites. As a requirement of registration under the Societies act we should pass this motion again as a Special Resolution. This can be done at either the Regular Monthly meeting or the Annual General Meeting this month.

The motion will be as follows:

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club yearly dues for a full member will be increased by \$5 which will go to the NSARA and each full member will become a member of the NSARA.

If any full member has already paid their regular dues for 2013 at the previous rate they can either add \$5 to become a member of NSARA or not as they wish.

Any full member paying their yearly dues at the November meeting will be assessed \$30 for 2013 and will become a member of NSARA.

A proposed schedule of the new membership fees is as follows.

2013 Membership Dues/Fee Structure

| Membership Type | Fee |
|--|----------------------------|
| Full Member (licensed amateurs only) | \$30.00 |
| Associate Member (no voting privileges) | \$15.00 |
| Family Membership: | |
| Full Members (one newsletter) | \$45.00 (2 family members) |
| Each additional family member (Full Member) | \$15.00 |
| All Full Members will also be Members of NSARA | |

Notice of Meeting of the SPARK (Sackville Philosophical Amateur Radio Klub)

Date: November 22, 2012 @ 5:30 pm AST.

Location: Tom's Family Restaurant

585 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville

SPARK is open to all Amateur Radio operators and their families, those interested in socializing with Amateurs and all others who feel they may either benefit from or contribute to the social event construed as the Annual General Meeting of SPARK. Feel free to pass the word on.

RSVP's would be greatly appreciated to help with seating. We are anticipating 40-50 attendees. Book early!!!

More information regarding menu items can be found at <http://www.tomsfamilyrestaurant.ca/menus/dinner-menu>.

The restaurant specializes in Greek food which is highly rated but has also a wide variety of menu items including salads, pasta, burgers, sandwiches and lots of finger foods including wings, onion rings, mozza sticks, etc. All are reasonably priced.

In lieu of a "Seniors Discount", a Seniors menu is now available.

Spirits of various types are also available, except for draft beer. If you so choose, bring your own wine. The "corkage fee" is only \$5. (Check to verify cost)

Please RSVP to Bob, VE1PQ, at bob_swinwood@hotmail.com
 Or by phone at 902-860-4454

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
NOVEMBER 2102

This will be my last Presidents Message; I will not be re-offering for the position for 2013. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Executive for their support over the past two years and also the club members for their support in the activities in which we have been involved. I have enjoyed serving the Club over this period and I ask the Club Members to support the New Executive for 2013.

There is still one Executive Position nomination to be filled; the Club requires a Second Vice President. These Duties mainly are to arrange the Entertainment Portion of the Monthly Meetings and to provide Refreshments. Please consider taking on this position by contacting Tom, VE1GTC.

The Basic Course is progressing well. By the end of December we will have a fresh group of new Amateurs on the Air.

Do not forget the Annual General Meeting on the 21 of November. Please note that a Brief Monthly Meeting will be held at 7:30 followed by the AGM at 8:30. Please plan to attend so that we will have a Quorum for the Executive Elections.

The Annual Christmas Dinner will take place on Dec. 19; an announcement is printed in this Reflector, please let Betty Caithness know if you plan to attend.

Fraser Mac Dougall, VE1WO

2013 Membership Incentive

Jim Guilford, VE1JG, the winner of the major door prize at this years Flea Market, has graciously donated the Dual Band Alinco Handheld radio back to the Club as he has no present use for it. He asked the Executive to decide what the most appropriate use of this radio would be.

The Executive has decided that we would use this gift as an incentive for Membership for 2013 . Any person who takes out a new membership or renews their existing membership prior to the end of March 2013 will be eligible for the draw which will take place prior to the April Monthly Meeting. The winner will be announced at that time.

1st Vice President's Report

The Cowie Hill repeater building has been temporarily patched up for the winter.

Bill, VE1MR

Station Manager's Report

Nothing to report

Jim, VE1JIM

Secretary's Report

“Nothing to report.”

Jeremy, VE1JHF

Report of Director-at-Large

Nothing to report

- Doug, VE1LDL

Why do they call it a TV set when you only have one?

Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Annual General Business Meeting

November 21, 2012

AGENDA

1. Acceptance of Agenda
2. Appointment of Secretary for AGM
3. Approval of 2011 AGM Minutes as published in November Reflector
4. Presidents Report
5. Membership Report
6. Britt Fader QSL Bureau Report – Tom (VE1GTC)
7. Treasurers Report of 2012 Audited Financials
8. 2013 Budget Discussions
9. Ratification of Executive Activities 2012
10. Election of Officers for 2013
11. Motion of Adjournment

Required Motions:

1. To select a Secretary for the AGM
2. to accept the Audited Year End Fiscal Report
3. To approve the activities of the Club Executive for the Fiscal Year 2011 / 2012, as undertaken on behalf of the Membership

Second Vice-President's Report

Our annual HARC Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday, December 19, at Fan's Chinese Restaurant, 451 Windmill Road, Dartmouth, NS at 6:30 p.m. Significant others are, of course, welcome to attend. Everyone will order individually from the menu and will be responsible for their own bills and gratuities. If you plan to attend, please RSVP Betty Caithness by e-mail at betty.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca or by telephone at 477-7081. The door prize for the evening will be a \$50 Canadian Tire Gift Card.

Betty, VE1BSW

Going Global with QSLs
By D. Howard Dickson –
VE1DHD/VE1ZD

Seabright, Nova Scotia, CANADA

I recently gave a talk at the Halifax Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting on "QSLing in the Digital Age" and thought that at least some of what I presented might be of interest to a wider audience.

If you are active on the air, and particularly if you are an avid contester, you are likely suffering from QSL overload. Overload both in the sense of time consumed and money expended. And while I really can not offer you any way of improving your lot with respect to the Direct QSL requests that you get, I may be able to help with those Bureau requests.

As you may know, responding to Bureau QSL requests is not an insignificant task and does have both time and financial implications. There is the cost of printing cards, the cost of labels for the data, the cost of shipping cards to the Outgoing RAC Bureau in Napean, as well as the RAC-associated costs. First, you must be a RAC member in good standing to access the Outgoing QSL Bureau. Then RAC has a 2000 gram QSL card limit for each member each year, or approximately 600 cards – depending upon the card stock used – and beyond that you pay \$2.50/100 gm of cards that are processed for you. And, if you apply for a special call for contesting purposes or a special event, there is no free 2000 gm allocation; you pay \$2.50/100 gm of cards from the get-go, plus there is an annual \$15.00 fee just so that you can access the outgoing RAC Bureau; and of course you still must be a RAC member.

If you read on, I may be able to convince you of a more economical way to deal with those Bureau QSL requests, and that solution is Global QSL - <http://www.globalqsl.com/>.

Global QSL is a relatively new com-

pany in Israel run by Hams. Global QSL was established by Azar Hami – 4X6MI – owner of a well established printing house and a second generation of printers, and Paul Gross – 4X6UU – an electronic technician for the last 41 years, as well as an avid DXer and contester.

Global QSL allows you to design your own card by downloading a copy of their graphic editor, and to get some assistance, they have an excellent tutorial on their site to help you with your card design. You can use colour images of your own choice to embellish your card, or you can use stock images from their site. Cards are printed in full colour front and back. Since your card template is stored on their site and only used when you request that cards be printed, you can modify your card at any time without any charge. Oh yes, you can also create specialty cards – for example, if you do a lot of RVing or Maritime Mobile on your boat, you can have VE1ZD; VE1ZD/mm; VE1ZD/VE3 etc., and then just link the ADIF file that you are submitting for printing, to the appropriate card format. No more having to remember to tick off one of the boxes for portable calls on your card.

Global QSL works like this. If you want some blank cards that you can use to respond to Direct QSL requests you simply order cards in 100-card lots; they are printed and shipped to your door - \$18.00 for 100 cards or \$120.00 for 1000 cards, taxes and shipping included.

When it comes time to respond to Bureau QSL requests, you simply sit down at your computer – the way you normally would if you were going to print off labels and respond through the outgoing RAC Bureau – but in this case, instead of setting a "print flag" you set an

ADIF flag to export all of the data from the cards that you are processing to an ADIF file; this process will obviously be different with each logging programme, so consult your user's manual for details on how to do this. You then upload that file to the Global site from the Graphic Editor, and you are done; sit back, have a coffee of tea and enjoy some rare DX! Global takes over from there. Global prints your cards, each with the appropriate contact data from your ADIF file. They sort and then send the cards to incoming QSL bureaus around the world. The cost for the above service is - \$13.50/100 cards or \$106.00/1000 cards, printed and delivered to the appropriate incoming QSL Bureau. And, if you pay for 1000 cards but don't use all of them in one printing, the remainder are banked to your account – just like a gift certificate – and you can use the remainder of your credit later. Too good to be true? Well, you know what they say; if it looks too good to be true, it probably is. But in this case, I honestly don't believe that this old adage holds true. If you look at the comments on their website and on eHam.net, you will find that the majority of Global users are happy with the service, with many rating it 5/5. There are some who are concerned about the slowness of the service – in other words, the time from your log submission to the arrival of cards at the other end, but you have to remember that this is a Bureau service – not a Direct postal service – so if it takes six, nine or even twelve months, you really should not complain; just relax and it will happen. My personal concern would be whether they can hold their pricing structure as currently advertised, but only time will tell.

Now for those who have never done it before, here are a few tips on designing your own QSL card. I have

(Continued on page 5)

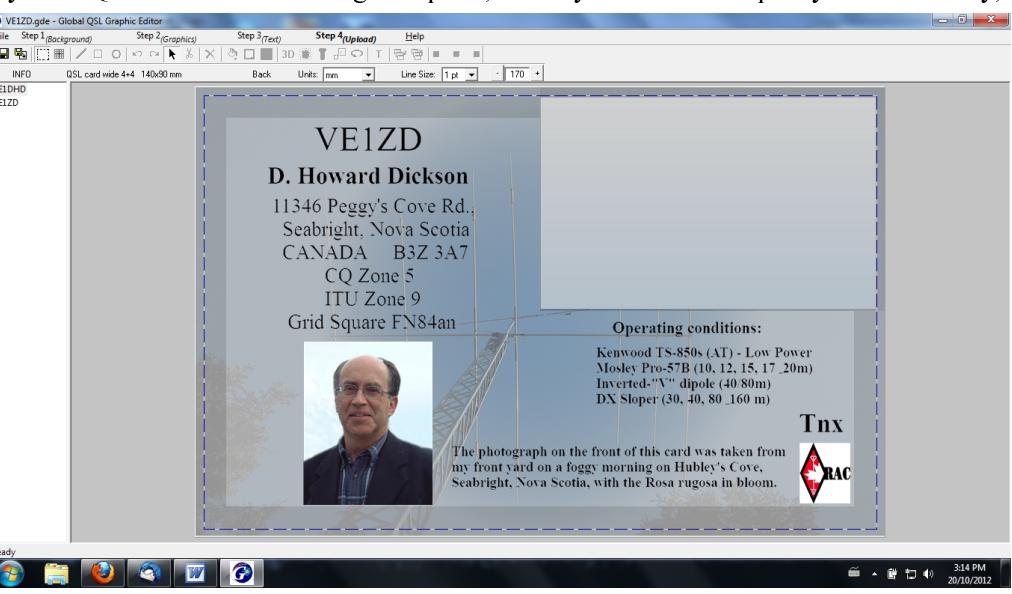
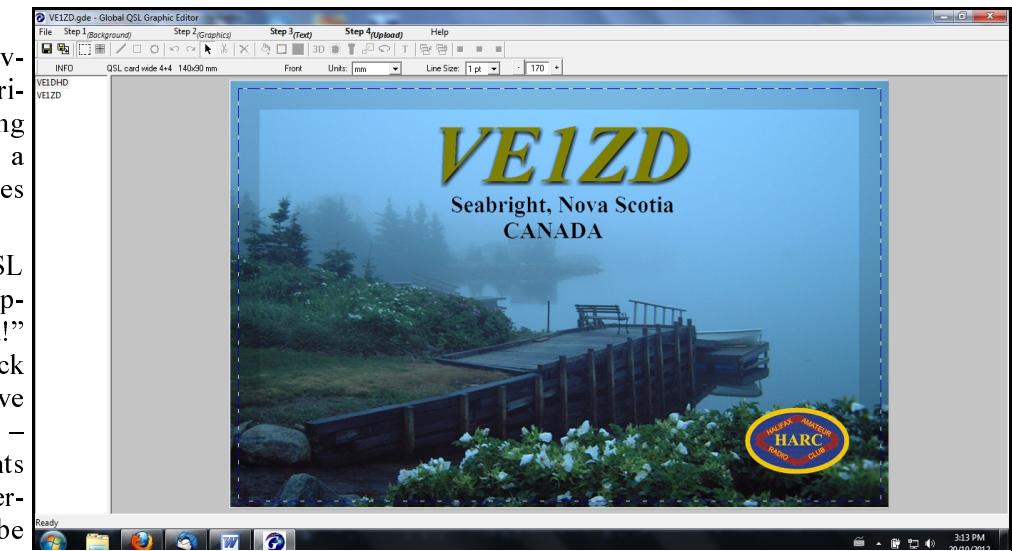
(Continued from page 4)

had some experience in this area having worked with Hams in the Maritimes the past seven years designing cards for them, and I think I have a reasonably good idea of what makes a good looking QSL card.

When it comes to designing QSL cards, I recommend the “KISS” approach – “Keep It Simple, Stupid!” Don’t clutter up the front, or the back of your card. The front needs to have your callsign in a large legible font – do not use those old English fonts that require a Greek scholar to interpret – and the callsign needs to be

positioned in a place where the background image that you use won’t obscure or detract from the callsign. Therefore, the selection of a background image is important! Beyond that, nothing else is required; however, you may want to add your address – such as city, province and country or any other element that is important, such as an IOTA number if working from an island. When it comes to the back of the card, you also need to have your callsign prominently displayed; there is nothing more annoying for card checkers or QSL managers than having to flip back and forth between the front and the back of your card to get all of the information that they need. Additionally the back should also have your name and full mailing address, your CQ and ITU Zones and grid square, but beyond that it is up to you. Personally,

I like to see something about the individual and the station but it is not required. With Global QSL cards there is however one critical area (top right hand corner on the back of the card) where there should be nothing other than a very pale background colour or even plain white because this is where your data will eventually be printed and you do not want to do anything to cause that data to be difficult to read. Figures 1 & 2 that follow are screen shots from the Global Graphic Editor of the front and back respectively, of the card that I just designed for myself.



However, if you have concerns about your ability to create a card yourself, you can always get the professionals at Global to do up a card for you, for a price.

In summary then, I highly recommend that you look at Global QSL as an alternative to Bureau QSLing, and in closing, I would like to declare that I have no association with Global QSL, nor have I received any pay or remuneration in kind for this endorsement. I just think that it is an incredibly innovative product! “Check it out!”

To make the most of **our web page** please send photos, notices of events, and ham radio news items, etc. to Brandon, VA1BSD, e-mail brandon.detmers@dal.ca

The HARC Reflector is also available on the web (photos in colour) via www.halifax-arc.org

Do you have pictures, an interesting or funny radio-related story, an article or a question you would like to share via the HARC Reflector? Please send it/them to Lynn, at ve1ent@rac.ca
Please show “For Reflector” in the “Subject” box so I don’t miss it. -ed

Halifax Amateur Radio Club
General Meeting Minutes
October 2012

Meeting declared open at 2030 by Fraser, VE1WO following a presentation by Howard, VE1DHD on Electronic QSL practices.

Call for any silent keys, none brought forward.

Fraser presented a list of **Silent Keys** from Jim Langille:

Rose Marie Fougere VE1UZ of Shedia, NB.

Harvey McLeod VE1AMN of New Glasgow, NS.

John Newcombe VE1JGN of Pembrook, NS.

Elmer MacKay VE1APN of Westville, NS.

Edna Parkin VE1AXF of St. John, NB

Additions to the **agenda** presented. Call for any further additions, none brought forward.

Motions to accept as presented: Howard VE1DHD, seconded Tom VE1GTC. Passed.

Guests present:

Tim Dunlop with the MS Society
Members present: DHD, WIN, OZ1HE, JEH, QD, MR, SBC, BMJ, RAR, GTC, HAZ, JPY, IGP, CAW, AJP, VA3IIF, CU, LSR, BB, RGG, JMA, LDL, JIM, CDD, JHF, BSW, WO

Call for any errors or amendments to the **minutes of the Sept. 19th monthly meeting**. None brought forward. Move to accept, Bill (MR), Second, Scott (QD). Passed.

Treasurers Report: John (CDD) reported that we had a GIC come due, and that it has been reinvested for 30 months @ 2.05% interest and it will be coming off the closing bank balance next month.

He then presented an overview of the current bank balance.

Fraser advised that there will be a fair amount of money from the course collected by Carol that will not appear until next year's opening balance.

Call for questions, none brought for-

ward.

Moved by John that the treasurers reported be accepted as presented. Seconded by Ian (IGP). Passed.

Call for any other executive reports:

2nd Vice-President Betty (BSW) advised on the preparations for the upcoming Christmas party and queried the members present if they were happy with the existing preparations and location. There was no dissension.

1st Vice-President Bill (MR) advised the club on the progress in getting information on the repairs for the club trailer and attempting to obtain a replacement cable for the winch.

Committee Reports:

Dave (AJP) deferred to Tom (GTC) who reported that there is an upcoming **EMO** Communications course on Saturday, Nov. 3rd at the Club station and invited all interested to attend, and then gave a short overview of what the course entailed and what would be covered.

Dave (AJP) then informed the club of SAR's involvement in a program designed to track wandering Alzheimer's / dementia patients (Project Lifesaver) and gave a short overview of how the program and hardware works.

He then informed the members about a search for 4 lost individuals, who had become stuck in the woods after a mishap with their new Jeep and a wooden bridge.

Betty (BSW) had a question for Dave about the aforementioned Project Lifesaver, and he expanded on his earlier information.

Carol's Membership Report:

October Reflector: 30 copied & delivered by post, 109 copied sent electronically.

Membership: 109 Full, 28 Associate and 4 Life members.

Basic Course Update from Eric (JEH):

Eric reported that the course was in week number 4 and that he had hoped for 15 students but that we ended up with 11, 5 of which are in the range of 14 to 17 years of age and that everything is on track. He also advised that Gary (RGB) has agreed to take on the course for next year.

Old Business:

Combination flea market:

Fraser advised that they had a meeting after the Greenwood Flea Market, with the Greenwood Club and the Yarmouth Clubs, and they said that they would take it back their respective clubs for discussion, and he passed on that information to the Moncton and St. John clubs, and they are going to bring it up to membership. Howard (DHD) wondered whether this would happen in 2013, and Fraser stated that he didn't think it could happen until 2014, due to the large amount of logistics that would have to be worked out. Scott (QD) brought up that the event should be more than just a flea market but should include other events to make it more attractive to all amateurs and others.

Fraser also advised that he had found the "Flea Market book", with all the information about previous flea markets.

Nominating Committee Report:

Tom (GTC) reported that to date, all the positions have candidates except for 2nd VP, but that he had talked to someone who might be interested. Candidates for the positions are as follows:

President: Scott (QD)

Secretary: Jeremy (JHF)

Treasurer: John (CDD) and

Jim Guilford (JG)

1st VP : Bill (MR)

2nd VP: Open with a possibility

Member at Large : Doug (LDL)

Station Manager : Jim (JIM)

Fraser stated that anyone wishing to put their name forward for any of the positions, please contact Tom (GTC).

*A chicken crossing the road:
poultry in motion*

(Continued on page 7)

HARC Meeting Minutes (Continued from page 6)

Remote Operation of Club station:

Fraser advised that there has been some discussion about the project but that to date, no one has come forward to take on the challenge. Jim (JIM) advised that Ed (EGG) has shown some interest in the project, but so far has not volunteered.

Ian (IGP) gave an overview of the recent Atlantic Sports Car Rally on August 26th, and the assistance of several amateurs, and the results thereof, and they look forward to next year's rally and further amateur radio involvement.

New Business:

Fraser brought up the notice of motion to purchase upgraded computers for the club station and what the intended use would be within the club, and fielded questions about them.

Jim (JIM) put forth a motion to spend the money to upgrade the computers. Seconded by Sheldon (GPY). Passed.

MS Society: Rick (RGG) gave the membership a brief overview of the Clubs long standing involvement with the MS Society's Bike Tour and Walk fundraisers, and invited Mr. Tim Dunlop from the MS Society to present 2 participation awards and small mementos to Doug (LDL) and Bill (MR).

Tim thanked the Club and its members for all their help and their continued assistance for future events.

Membership incentive for 2013:

Fraser informed the membership that Jim Guilford (JG), who was the winner of the major door prize at this year's flea market, has graciously donated the dual band Alinco handheld back to the club and for the Executive to decide what the best use of this gift should be. The Executive has decided to use this donation as an incentive for this year's membership drive. Consequently, at the April meeting, a draw will take place for those who have renewed their memberships for 2013, and the winner will receive the handheld.

NSARA Insurance request:

Fraser asked Bill (MR) to elaborate on the NSARA's request to assist with funding for their repeater site insurance requirements. Bill explained that he had attended the NSARA meeting after the Greenwood Flea Market, and told the club that the province is now requiring that the NSARA carry liability insurance for those amateurs who regularly enter the provincial repeater sites to work on the radios / repeaters, and that the NSARA has requested help from the NS clubs to offset or cover the \$700 per year insurance cost they are now incurring.

Howard (DHD) put forward that an idea would be for HARC to increase its yearly membership dues by \$5 per year, and that this \$5 would go toward the insurance donation by the club. This donation would also mean that any paid member would also automatically become a member of the NSARA. There was some discussion about this among the members present, with the consensus being that the membership present was amenable to the idea, and it should be seriously considered.

A motion was made by Howard (DHD) that the HARC increase its yearly membership dues by \$5 and that the money be given to the NSARA to help with the insurance payments. It was seconded by Win (WIN). This motion will be placed in the Reflector for voting on at the AGM. Motion carried.

JOTA: Doug (LDL) advised the members present that as of that afternoon, he had not received any requests to participate in this year's JOTA. The event was slated for that upcoming weekend, and he asked that if anyone heard any groups participating that they please make a contact with them.

Additional examiner: Fraser advised that we had a requirement for an additional examiner to issue the licensing exams for the club. Jim (JIM) had volunteered for the posi-

tion, and he advised that he had been in touch with an Industry Canada rep for an interview, and that the paperwork had been completed and sent off to Ottawa.

So Jim is now our newest designated licensing examiner.

Thanks to Jim for taking on that position.

RAC Club affiliation: Fraser advised the members that it's time to renew our Club's affiliation with RAC, and the benefits thereof.

A motion was made by Ian (IGP) to renew its membership and was seconded by Scott (QD).

Motion Passed.

50/50 and door prize draw:

Door prize was won by Erik (JEH)
50/50 draw won by Murray (BB)

Meeting was declared adjourned at 2131 on motion from Doug (LDL).

Respectfully submitted
Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF
Club Secretary

Nominating Committee Report

Candidates for the HARC executive positions for 2013 are as follows:

President: Scott Wood, VE1QD

Secretary: Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF

Treasurer: John Goodwin, VE1CDD
and Jim Guilford, VE1JG

1st Vice-President: Bill, VE1MR

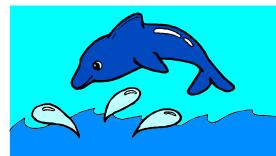
2nd Vice-President: Open

Member at Large: Doug LeBlanc,
VE1LDL

Station Manager: Jim Flowers,
VE1JIM

Anyone wishing to put their name forward for any of the positions, please contact Tom VE1GTC

Dolphins are so smart, that within a few weeks of captivity they can train people to stand on the edge of the pool and throw them fish.



From the Mail Bag**Petition to save RCI Sackville from being dismantled....**

Thomas Witherspoon K4SWL has launched a petition to save Radio Canada International's Sackville site from being dismantled.

Thomas says:

"Could you please take a few moments out of your day to sign this Change.org petition I started? Your voice will be added to the petition and it will automatically email the appropriate Canadian politicians who could, at the very least, put a halt to the destruction of the RCI Sackville site. Canada—indeed, the world—needs this vital shortwave resource.

I have more information about this on my blog

<http://swling.com/blog/2012/10/petition-to-save-rci-sackville-from-being-dismantled/>

You can sign the petition by going to
<http://chn.ge/TRgSCX>

Hello all, please consider signing this petition.

73, Tom, VE1TA, President, NSARA

Wanted

Good quality headset with standard jack.

Please contact Byron, VE1NFD, at 434-4118.

Actual exchange between pilot and control tower
Tower: "DELTA 351,
YOU HAVE TRAFFIC
AT 10 O'CLOCK, 6 MILES!"
Delta 351: "GIVE US ANOTHER
HINT! WE HAVE DIGITAL
WATCHES!"



Just wanted to say hello and wish you well. We're doing fine on this end; busy with our growing business. We are launching a world-wide opportunity for some young person to be setup with a complete station.

Feel free to let others know and/or place link on any websites that would be convenient for young hams to become aware of this, if you so desire.

The link to the Application Form is on our HOME PAGE (at the top)...to be activated very soon.

www.AmateurRadioSupplies.com

This AD will be placed in the next issue of the DX Magazine and other places.

73, Randy N0TG

**AMATEUR RADIO SUPPLIES**
Young HAM Give-Away - January 2013

To encourage youth in Dxing and Contesting, Amateur Radio Supplies (ARS) will provide a COMPLETE STATION to a deserving young ham, under AGE 21.

HF 100 Watt Transceiver and 30 Amp Power Supply,
Antenna, Heil Pro Headset, Vibroplex Paddles, LDG Tuner, Signal Link

Applicants Up To Age 21 Can Submit Their Names/Callsign and Answer a Few Basic Questions Online.

*We Will Ship Anywhere In The World To The Winner!
Applicants Submittal Form [LINK](#) Located At:*

www.AmateurRadioSupplies.Com

All Submittals Must Be Received By 20 December 2012

Nominations Are Also Accepted Via Email:

randy@amateurradiosupplies.com

Provided by the ARS Owner/Management Team: Jeff - N1SNB; Randy - N0TG

Safety Note**DOES THE EXPIRATION DATE ON A BOTTLE OF MEDICATION HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANCE?**

Medical authorities state expired drugs are safe to take, even those that expired years ago. A rare exception to this may be tetracycline, but the report on this is controversial among researchers. It's true the effectiveness of a drug may decrease over time, but much of the original potency still remains even a decade after the expiration date. Excluding nitroglycerin, insulin, and liquid antibiotics, most medications are as long-lasting as the ones tested by the military. Placing a medication in a cool place, such as a refrigerator, will help a drug remain potent for many years. The next time you face the drug expiration date dilemma, If the expiration date passed a few years ago and it's important that your drug is absolutely 100% effective, you might want to consider buying a new bottle. And if you have any questions about the safety or effectiveness of any drug, ask your pharmacist. He or she is a great resource when it comes to getting more information about your medications.

Read more at

<http://www.health.harvard.edu/fhg/updates/update1103a.shtml>

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
2011 Annual General Meeting
November 16, 2011**

Call to Order: There being a quorum present (22 paid-up full members), President Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) called the 2011 Annual General Meeting of the HARC to order at 8:25 p.m. on Nov. 16, 2011.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion: THAT the Agenda be accepted.

Moved by Scott Wood (VE1QD). Seconded by Tom Caithness (VE1GTC). No additions were requested from the floor.

Motion carried.

Appointment of a Secretary for the AGM:

MOTION, that Betty Caithness (VE1BSW) be appointed the secretary for the 2011 AGM.

Moved by Howard Dickson (VE1DHD); seconded by Doug LeBlanc (VE1LDL).

Motion carried.

Minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting:

Motion: THAT the minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting be accepted as published in the November, 2011 Reflector. Moved by Bill Elliott (VE1MR); seconded by Jim Flowers (VE1JIM).

Motion carried.

Annual Report of the President: President Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) thanked members of the outgoing Executive for their hard work and gave an overview of the many events and activities undertaken by the club during the past year, as well as Club accomplishments. A copy of the full report is attached to these minutes.

Membership Report – Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) reported on behalf of Carol Wood (VE1HAZ) indicating that there are 4 Life members; 28 Associate members and 106 Full members for a total of 138 paid-up members for 2011/2012.

Brit Fader QSL Bureau Report – Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) reported that 10,213 cards have been sent out to date and that he is in the process of contacting bureau members who have cards on file but no funds in their account. Full report is attached to these minutes..

Treasurer's Report of the 2011 Audited Financial Statements:

John Goodwin (VE1CDD) presented the 2010-2011 Financial Statement and Annual Report. See attached copy for details. John also reported that there was no scholarship awarded this year from the Britt Fader Scholarship Fund. Discussion.

Motion: THAT the Financial Statement and Annual Report, including the auditor's statement be accepted as presented.

Moved by Doug LeBlanc (VE1LDL). Seconded by Howard Dickson (VE1DHD).

Motion carried.

Consideration of Budget for current fiscal year: John Goodwin (VE1CDD) presented the proposed budget for 2012. For details see the copy attached to these minutes. Discussion and questions.

Motion: THAT the budget for the new fiscal year 2012 be accepted with the addition of \$1,000 to Income for the Basic Course.

Moved by Howard Dickson (VE1DHD). Seconded by George Snow (VE1CAW)

Motion carried.

Consideration of a motion of ratification of the previous year's activities of the Executive Officers:

Motion: THAT the business activities of the Executive Officers conducted on behalf of the HARC and its members during the fiscal year 2010/2011 be deemed acceptable and officially sanctioned.

Moved by Tom Caithness (VE1GTC). Seconded by Dick Grantham (VE1AI).

Motion carried.

Election of officers for 2012: President Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) passed the meeting over to Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) to preside over the election. It was confirmed that the required 22-member quorum had been achieved.

Tellers: Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) and Sheldon Hartling (VE1GPY) were appointed by the Nominating Committee.

Position of President: Current President, Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO), agreed to stand for this position.

There were no nominations from the floor. Acclaimed: Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO)

Position of First Vice President: Candidate Bill Elliott (VE1MR) agreed to stand for this position.

There were no nominations from the floor. Acclaimed: Bill Elliott, VE1MR.

Position of Second Vice President: Betty Caithness (VE1BSW) agreed to stand for this position. There were no other nominations from the floor. Acclaimed: Betty Caithness (VE1BSW).

Position of Treasurer: John Goodwin (VE1CDD) agreed to stand for this position. There were no other nominations from the floor. Acclaimed: John Goodwin (VE1CDD).

Position of Secretary – Several nomination were made from the floor but all were declined. The position of Secretary remains open.

Position of Station Manager: Jim Flowers (VE1JIM) agreed to stand for this position. There were no further nominations from the floor. Acclaimed: Jim Flowers (VE1JIM).

Position of Member at Large: Doug LeBlanc (VE1LDL) agreed to stand for this position. There were no further nominations from the floor. Acclaimed: Doug LeBlanc (VE1LDL).

Past President: Not filled at this time.

Ship's Electrician Doug Faunt, N6TQS, Rescued

On Monday, October 29, a replica of the *Bounty* -- built in 1960 for a remake of the 1962 film *Mutiny on the Bounty* -- sank off the coast of North Carolina as Hurricane Sandy made its way toward New Jersey. Of its 16 crew members, 14 were rescued by the US Coast Guard. *Bounty* Captain Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, never made it to one of the two deployed life rafts and is presumed dead. Claudene Christian, who claimed to be a direct descendent of Fletcher Christian, was unresponsive and passed away at a North Carolina hospital on Monday evening.

Every DXer knows the story of the HMS *Bounty* and Pitcairn Island, VP6: In 1789, the HMS *Bounty* -- a small three-masted sailing vessel sent by Britain's Royal Navy to the Pacific on a supply expedition -- was roiled by tension between its crew and its captain, William Bligh. After landing in Tahiti and taking on a cargo of breadfruit, the *Bounty* set sail for the West Indies; it never reached that destination. Instead, Master's Mate Fletcher Christian led the men in a mutiny, eventually allowing Bligh and his loyalists to sail off in a longboat. After an arduous journey, they reached safety at the Dutch-owned port of Kupang. Christian and his followers ended up on Pitcairn Island where they burned the *Bounty* and settled on the island. Passing ships did not discover the enclave until after the turn of the century.

Doug Faunt, N6TQS, of Oakland, California, was one of the 14 who was rescued by the Coast Guard; Faunt served as a deckhand and was also the ship's electrician. A noted DXer and ARRL Life Member, he was part of the FO0AAA DXpedition crew in 2000 to Clipperton Island and in 2007, he was part of the DXpedition to Lakshadweep. According to Spud Roscoe, VE1BC, Faunt had satellite communications equipment and *Winlink* capabilities on board the *Bounty*, but he was not the ship's radio officer. "Sailing on replica ships was a hobby of Doug's," Roscoe told the ARRL. "He had previously sailed across the Great Australian Bight on a replica of the HMB *Endeavour*, Captain Cook's ship. He was an able seaman of the watch." Roscoe was the radio officer on the replica *Bounty* for its original voyage to France in 1962.

Faunt told the ARRL that the *Bounty* crew tried various methods, including a satellite phone, to call for help, "but we got nothing when tried calling out on HF. We tried calling the Maritime Mobile Net, but nothing was out there. We had *Winlink* on the ship that we used for e-mail and accessing the Internet to post to blogs and to Facebook, and we finally found an e-mail address for the Coast Guard. As a last-ditch effort, we used *Winlink* to e-mail the Coast Guard for help. Within an hour, we heard a C-130 plane, and later, a helicopter overhead." According to Faunt, it was Walbridge, as master of the ship, who sent out the distress messages.

"I don't know how I made it off the ship," Faunt recalled. "I had finished serving a long watch, and then we started going down. I was exhausted. I had to swim to get to the life raft. The water was full of rigging, and here I am, in my Gumby suit, trying to swim. It was so difficult. While swimming to the raft, I came up for air and a spar was coming at me. I finally found a raft and tried to climb into it, but I almost didn't make it, tired as I was. Through the help of my shipmates who were already aboard the raft, I got on." The two life rafts were out about 100 miles from shore when they were rescued.

The vessel left Connecticut on Thursday, October 25 with a crew of 11 men and five women, ranging in age from 20-66. After being treated at a hospital in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Faunt arrived back home in California on Wednesday, October 31. "I'm looking for a new boat to sail and a DXpedition to go on," Faunt told the ARRL. "Ham radio got me into my position on the *Bounty*, and ham radio got me out alive!"

Thanks to VE1BC, R/O Spud Roscoe for this item. -ed

Minutes of 2011 AGM(Continued from page 9)

Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) handed the chair back to President Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO).

With no further business, Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:07 p.m. Seconded by Erik Hein (VE1JEH).

Respectfully Submitted
Betty Caithness (VE1BSW), Secretary

Irish Friendship Wish

May there always be work for your hands to do;
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you;
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

*Merry Christmas and wishing you a
Happy & Healthy 2013*



Never miss
a good
chance to
shut up.
(Humbug!)
- Will
Rogers